

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00

ERDA-05 SS-15 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6500

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 11573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EG, US

SUBJ: NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT

1. MAHER ABAZA, UNDERSECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY, CALLED EMBOFF AUGUST 28 TO REQUEST, ON BEHALF OF DEPPRIMIN AND MINELECTRICITY SULTAN, STATUS REPORT ON US/EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY ABAZA WONDERED IF AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AND WHAT EXPECTATIONS ARE NOW THAT IT WILL BE APPROVED BY THIS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION. EMBOFF SAID THAT AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE AGREEMENT HAS NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO PRESIDENT FORD AND PROMISED TO REQUEST STATUS REPORT FOR MINSULTAN.

2. PLEASE PROVIDE STATUS REPORT ON APPROVAL PROCESS FOR US/EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR TRANSMISSION TO SULTAN.

3. COMMENT. OUR FAILURE TO HAVE SAID ANYTHING FURTHER TO THE EGYPTIANS IS CAUSING CONCERN. THEY ARE BEGINNING TO BELIEVE OUR EARLIER ARM TWISTING TO GET QUICK AGREEMENT, FOLLOWING ISRAELI APPROVAL OF SIMILAR TEXT, IS NO MORE THAN CHARADE AND THAT WE NEVER HAD ANY INTENTIONS OF SUBMITTING DOCUMENTS TO THIS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION. WE HAVE NEVER TOLD TYPTIANS THAT
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PRESIDENTIAL SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS WAS ASSURED,

BUT THE HASTE WITH WHICH WE ASKED GOE TO APPROVE
FINAL TEXT INEVITABLY LED TO SUCH CONCLUSION.
MOREOVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT EGYPTIAN EMBASSY
IN WASHINGTON REPORTED OUR PURPOSE WAS TO SUBMIT AGREEMENTS
TO THIS CONGRESS. WHATEVER REASON FOR FURTHER
DELAYS, BELIEVE WE SHOULD BRIEF EGYPTIANS FULLY AT
THIS POINT IN ORDER TO LIMIT POLITICAL DAMAGE WHICH
OUR SILENCE IS CAUSING AND WHICH WILL BECOME WORSE IF WE
SUBSEQUENTLY HAVE TO TELL THEM THAT WE ARE NOT SUBMITTING
DOCUMENTS TO THIS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION. WE SHOULD BE AWARE
PRESIDENT SADAT IS PERSONALLY KEENLY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER AND
IS FOLLOWING IT CLOSELY.
EILTS

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